



Medical Society of Delaware  
LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHY DELAWARE

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## 4-30-2020

*In an effort to keep Delaware's medical community current on the latest information regarding the coronavirus crisis, the Medical Society of Delaware is sharing the following:*

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### DPH Announces 79 New Positive Cases / Eight Additional Deaths

According to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) **79** new Delawareans have been diagnosed with COVID-19, taking the total number of lab-confirmed cases to **4,734**, including **296** who are hospitalized, **65** of whom are critically ill.

**One hundred fifty-two** individuals have died due to COVID-19 in Delaware with ages ranging from 32 to 103 years old. The most recent deaths announced today ranged in age from 65 to 95. Three were New Castle County residents, one was a Kent County resident, and four were Sussex County residents. **Ninety-six** of the deaths involved residents from long-term care facilities.

Latest statistics on positive cases:

- New Castle County cases: 1,734
- Kent County cases: 759
- Sussex County cases: 2,216
- Unknown County: 25
- Age range: 0 to 103

[Read more.](#)

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### CMS Increases Payments for Audio-Only Telephone Visits

In response to efforts by the American Medical Association (AMA), MSD and

other health care organizations, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today that they will be increasing payments for audio-only telephone visits between Medicare beneficiaries and their physicians to match payments for similar office and outpatient visits. This would increase payments for these services from a range of about \$14-\$41 to about \$46-\$110. Payments are retroactive to March 1, 2020. [Read letter to CMS.](#) [Read more.](#)

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## **DPH Updates Sussex County Testing Site Locations**

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) has updated the list of COVID-19 Sussex County testing sites through next week. DPH has created flyers promoting the locations in English, Spanish, and Creole. Please share with your patients as applicable.

[View printable English flyer.](#)

[View printable Spanish flyer.](#)

[View printable Creole flyer.](#)

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## **Updated Essential Personnel Screening and Return to Work Guidelines**

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) has updated guidance for returning to work, as well as guidelines for screening essential personnel. Changes include adding shaking chills to list of symptoms, and specific language around health care and critical infrastructure personnel.

[Read Return to Work Guidelines](#)

[Read Essential Personnel Screening Guidelines.](#)

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## **Governor Carney Issues 14th Modification to Emergency Declaration**

Governor John Carney has issued the fourteenth modification to his State of Emergency declaration, providing additional protections for Delaware renters during the COVID-19 pandemic, and extending the application deadline for Delaware's Senior School Property Tax Credit Program until June 1. [Read more.](#)

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## **DNREC State Parks, Wildlife Area Visitors Must Bring Masks Starting Tomorrow**

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) announced that starting tomorrow, those aged 13 or older will now be required to bring a face mask to enter state parks, wildlife areas and reserves, and

should wear them when they cannot maintain social distancing from other visitors. Those who do not bring face masks when visiting these areas may be required to leave by officers or staff. [Read more.](#)

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## MSD Urges Governor Carney to Adopt Emergency Protections for Physicians

The Medical Society of Delaware has signed a joint letter along with the Delaware Healthcare Association, the Delaware Nurses Association and the Delaware Health Care Facilities Association requesting Governor Carney remove obstacles to preserving and expanding the physician workforce during the current public health emergency. The letter also requests the Governor to issue an Executive Order confirming that immunity provisions in Delaware law apply to all of their actions – both compensated and uncompensated - in rendering assistance to the State during the entire duration of the State of Emergency. [Read letter.](#)

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## MSD Welcomes Dealmed as New Affinity Partner



Founded in 1930, [Dealmed](#) is the largest, independent med/surg distributor in the Northeast region. Dealmed's primary focus is to help independent physician practices improve efficiency and increase profitability so they can strengthen their business and continue to practice medicine the way they want to. As both a medical supply manufacturer and distributor, Dealmed has the unique advantage of being able to offer a wide array of services, supplies, equipment, injectables, and custom items to fit any budget. From order entry by your dedicated support team to order receipt through their very own fleet of delivery vehicles, a Dealmed employee will handle your product needs with care so you can focus on what's important; improving patient care outcomes.

To set-up an account or for a free consultation, please contact Sonja Baggett Medical Consultant - (302) 766-2124 or [sbaggett@dealmed.com](mailto:sbaggett@dealmed.com)

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*For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, MSD has created a coronavirus resource page on our website. [View resource page.](#)*

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